

Application No. 09/683,329

a 30 and the inner surface 32 of the belt are substantially flush across the seam. However, in this embodiment the tongue 24 includes a protrusion 38 that fits into a channel 40. The tongues 24 and 26 not only increase the seam's surface area, thus enabling the adhesive 22 to form a stronger seam, but the protrusion 38 and channel 40 add a mechanical impediment to seam separation. Of course, the increased seam area along the protrusion 38 also improves the strength of the seam. The seam overlap configuration can again be bonded together to give a strong seamed belt, by either using an adhesive or ultrasonic welding technique as described in Figure 5.

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